

Teen Drinking

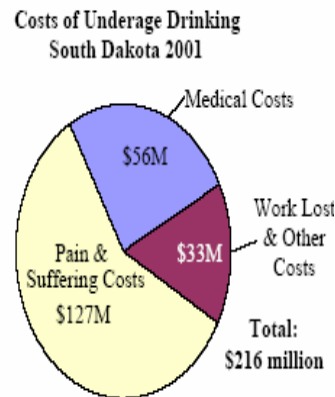
THE SOBERING REALITY OF
OUR SOUTH DAKOTA YOUTH

Is this an ISSUE?

- Youth under the age of 21, drink 25% of the alcohol consumed in the US.
- Over 5 million youth admit to binge drinking at least once in the past month.
- Over 1/3 of the youth begin drinking in eighth grade or sooner.

Problems and Costs Associated with Underage Drinking in South Dakota

Underage drinking cost the citizens of South Dakota \$216 million in 2001. These costs include medical care, work loss, and pain and suffering associated with the multiple problems resulting from the use of alcohol by youth.¹ This translates to a cost of \$2,496 per year for each youth in the State. South Dakota ranks 12th highest among the 50 states for the cost per youth of underage drinking. Excluding pain and suffering from these costs, the direct costs of underage drinking incurred through medical care and loss of work cost South Dakota \$89 million each year.



Costs of Underage Drinking by Problem, South Dakota 2001

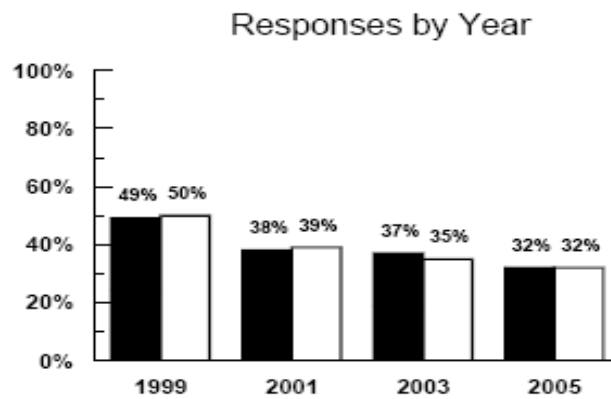
Problem	Total Costs (in millions)
Youth Violence	\$94.8
Youth Traffic Crashes	\$40.0
High-Risk Sex, Ages 14-20	\$15.1
Youth Property Crime	\$4.8
Youth Injury	\$11.1
Poisonings and Psychoses	\$3.2
FAS Among Mothers Age 15-20	\$2.8
Youth Alcohol Treatment	\$44.8
Total	\$216.5

- According to a recent study, underage drinking costs the United States nearly \$62 billion a year. Published in the July 2006 edition of the Journal of Studies on Alcohol, the study notes that underage drinking leads to nearly 3,200 deaths each year.

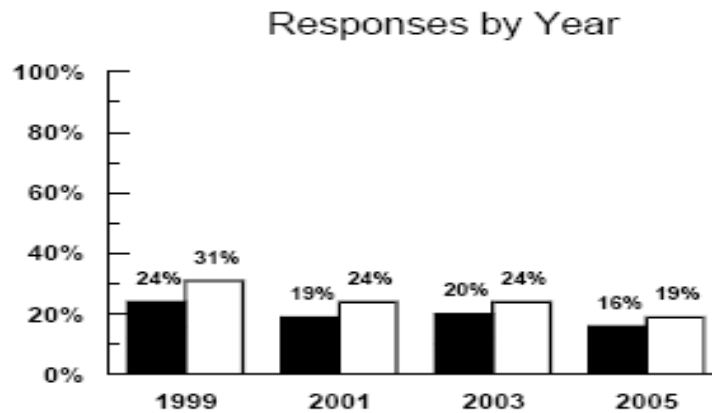
SOUTH DAKOTA YOUTH

2005 Youth Risk Behavior Survey

Percentage of respondents who during the past 30 days rode one or more times in a car or other vehicle driven by someone who had been drinking alcohol = 32%

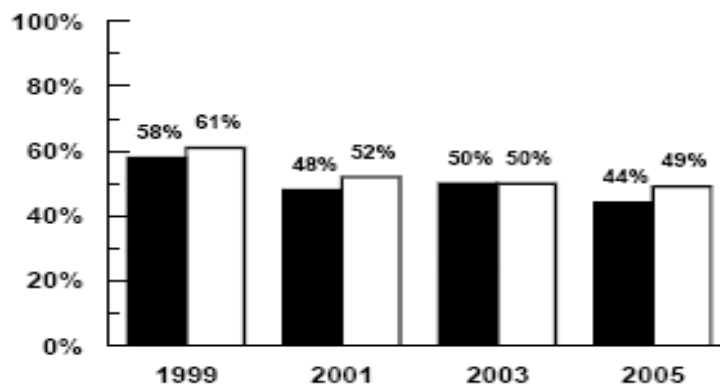


Percentage of respondents who during the past 30 days drove a car or other vehicle one or more times when they had been drinking alcohol = 17%



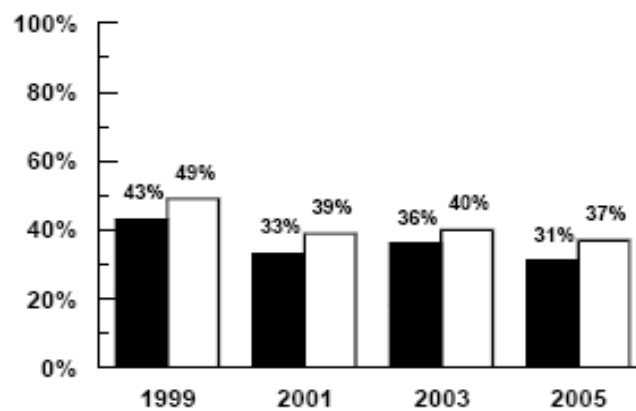
Percentage of respondents who had at least one drink of alcohol on one or more of the past 30 days = 47%

Responses by Year



Percentage of respondents who had 5 or more drinks of alcohol in a row, that is within a couple of hours, on one or more of the past 30 days = 34%


Responses by Year



The Numbers



Underage youth consume
23.7 % of the alcohol
sold in South Dakota



2005 – 447 Underage Drinking/Driving
7,085 Underage Consumption

2006 – 7,509 Underage Consumption

From Jan. to Dec., 2006 we lost 14 young
people <21 in alcohol related crashes.



In 2006

- 191 fatalities, 32 were under 21
- 72 alcohol involved fatalities, 14 were under 21

Let's Start Talking

BEFORE THEY START USING



**PARENTS
MATTER**
let's make a difference

- Youth that hear/learn a clear “no use” message are 42% less likely to use
- Two-thirds of teens tell us that losing their parents’ respect is one of the main reasons they don’t use

Conversation Guidelines

- Take advantage of daily opportunities to talk (in the car, dinner table, etc.)
- Use current events to raise the issue
- Give your reaction to current events
- Ask your child for his/her reaction
- Don't criticize
- Make it a discussion – not an argument

RESOURCES

What do we have in place?

What are we doing?

- **4-Prevention Resource Centers**
 - Lemmon, Rapid City, Sioux Falls, Watertown
- **Community Mobilization Projects**
 - 13 sites statewide
- **Primary/Secondary Diversion**
 - Since 1998—12, 900+
- **School-based Prevention**
 - 4 sites statewide reaching 54,000 youth

